

4/4/67

Dear Mr. Pena,

I hope the assault upon you last night does no serious damage. Please give me those details you can, where and when it happened, how many were involved, whether you saw and can identify any of them, who, if you have any basis, you think was responsible, etc. I am almost finished another book and want to include this and what I can of what you tell me.

Under separate cover I have sent you a copy of my second book. I think you may be especially interested in Chapter 7, in the document on the bottom of page 50 and, in general, in what I document of the way in which the FBI worked and did not work.

I am aware that you wanted to tell Wesley Liebelar things about the FBI he did not want to hear. I would like all the detail you can give on what they did and did not do because I am satisfied they played an important part in the coverup.

In our phone conversation I suggested you might want to get a tape recorder. I hope you will. It can be a benefit to you and to me, and it can provide you with a great degree of protection. They are not expensive, are easy to operate, and permit a man to make a record of things he wants known very ~~rapid~~ rapidly. I recommend you get a small, portable one that can work from either batteries or electricity, that will take a five inch reel of tape, and that can play at slow speeds, ~~1 1/2~~ 1 and 7/8 and 3 3/4. With a single five-inch reel of tape that can be used on both side by following the instructions a man can speak for three hours and have every word recorded. If you get a thinner tape, known as half mil mylar, you can speak for six hours on the single tape, or for three hours on each side. The cost is cheap, about a dollar for a reel of the standard tape. My machines are a little more expensive than most. They are Concord make, model 330. But there is a similar machine sold under the Crown label that costs about 65 dollars. Machines that will take only a three inch reel of tape cost about \$30-40 for the better ones. It is important to get one that runs at a constant speed, "capstan drive", it is called. Most machines have a switch on the microphone so you can stop it while you think. The three-inch reels come with special packages for mailing, but it is not difficult to mail the 5" ones. If you feel you cannot afford to make this investment, although I am not yet out of debt from the more than three years of work on this subject, without income, I will buy and lend you one.

I would prefer that you say what you want to, without any questions from me. I can always ask questions later. There is always the danger that the question can shape the thinking of the man of whom the question is asked. Questions should serve not to control the thinking of those who answer, but to direct the thinking, to help a man recall what it is he is talking about, but not to tell him what to say.

I hope you will be able to phone me again tonight.

There is one thing I meant to ask. What is the licence number of the car in which those two Mexican men were driving, the case where Bringuier was asked to phone the FBI? *Make and Model*

Your feelings about Bringuier are clear. Can you expand on them, telling me why you feel as you do aside from your belief that he hates the United States.

You know from the few questions I asked you some of the men in whom I have an interest. I would like you to list those you think I should be interested in and then tell me why you think I should be interested.

Who besides Ernesto do you believe was involved? Why do you think he is, and how, ~~and of you have any idea.~~

I am also interested in everything I can get on Ferrie and his connections, any connections of the CIA with the Cuban groups of which you have knowledge, anything on the people connected with the raided camp and their plans and purposes. I am especially interested in any evidence of which you know of CIA control over or influence on these groups, also FBI.

Now that you have seen his picture, does Shaw mean anything to you?

I will keep everything you send me.

Again I encourage you to speak to Garrison. I think it is important protection for you, and I think you can be of service that way. From your testimony I am satisfied that you want to help the country and are not a coward. I therefore encourage you to make a record of everything you know. From your own studies by correspondence course you may know that a single fact that may seem to mean nothing by itself or to one man may with other facts or to another man have important meaning.

Thank you very much. Do not be afraid. Courage is its own shield.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg